

STILLWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)).

REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 14, 2017

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; Maureen Davey and Mark Crago, Members.

Others Present: Mark Schreiner and Randy Werdal, Road Department; Dana Weatherford, Weed Coordinator; Nancy Rohde, County Attorney; Steve Hopsiter; Cliff Brophy, Sheriff; Jim and Coralee Hicks; and Mikaela Koski, Stillwater County News.

Open Meeting: Commissioner Shupak opened the meeting at 9:00 am with the pledge to the flag.

Public Comment: None heard

Claims: None presented

File Items: 1. Sheriff's Report - Fees collected in the amount of \$575 for month ending October 31, 2017.

Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to place the file item to file. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Regular Business: Stillwater Wind, LLC Documents

1. Tax Abatement Request Decision - Commissioner Davey stated Stillwater Wind LLC has requested a tax abatement and a decision is to be made. The County Attorney prepared a draft resolution for Commissioner's consideration.

Comments: After the public hearing held on November 7, 2017, one written comment was received from Jim Movius via email. His comment stated *if the wind project is a for profit business, it is not appropriate to give it a tax relief*. His letter also summarized wind power vs voltaic power (solar panels) concluding solar winning out over wind power in his 25-years of experience with it in Alaska.

Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to adopt **Resolution 2017-52** granting tax abatement benefits for the Stillwater Wind Project owned by Pattern Renewables 2 LP. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Commissioner Davey said all this information was made available to

the public to make comment. She said during the public hearing, good feed-back was heard from the public. She said this is positive action to take. Commissioner Crago concurred with Commissioner Davey and further stated we are excited to have Stillwater Wind whom have been very good to work with and excited to have them part of our community in the very near future.

Further Comment: Steve Hopsiter, Columbus Police Department, said he has concerns about Itch-Kep-Pe Park and it trying to absorb an overflow of campers and follow the 10-day rule implemented by the city. Mark Schreiner, Road Superintendent, said Pattern Renewable would address any problems with their employees pursuant to his conversations with the company. Commissioner Crago said the last conversation with Pattern - the contractors were narrowed down to either Billings or Bozeman. He thought some those issues won't be as pressing with hiring local contractors familiar with the area.

Vote: Commissioner Davey read aloud Resolution 2017-52 for those present. Commissioner Shupak called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously. Filed in the Clerk and Records Office - Document No. 370707.

2. Noxious Weed Management Plan - Commissioner Crago said the plan was reviewed by the Weed Coordinator; County Attorney; and Commission. Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to approve the Noxious Weed Management Plan for Stillwater Wind LLC. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Impact Fee Agreement - Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the agreement between Stillwater County and Stillwater Wind LLC. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Commissioner Davey said in working with Stillwater Wind on this impact agreement, they have agreed to pay the maximum pursuant to statutes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Road Agreement - Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to approve the road agreement between Stillwater County and Stillwater Wind LLC. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Commissioner Davey thanked all parties involved (County Attorney, Road Department, Weed Department, and the Commissioners) for all the time it took getting the documents in place for this project. Commissioner Crago also thanked the landowners. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Shupak adjourned the meeting at 9:15 AM.